

MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE PUBLICATIONS

30 October 1953

Present

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Members: [REDACTED], CIA, Chairman
CIA
Stanley Wilcox, State
John A. Lacey, State
Richard Bauer, Army
Lt. Cdr. William C. Kruse, Navy
Maj. Matthias F. Donelan, Air Force

Consultants: Charles Stanley, State
Maj. Howard G. Neuman, Air Force

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[REDACTED], CIA
CIA
CIA

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Observer: [REDACTED] CIA

1. The thirteenth meeting convened at 1400 hours, 30 October 1953, in Room 2125 M Building. The minutes of the twelfth meeting were approved with the following amendments:

a. State stated that paragraph 2 should read: "Collations of political, economic and sociological information on a semiannual basis."

b. CIA's statement in paragraph 2 should be preceded by: "In the field of economic information"

2. The committee commenced the examination of the exploitation of Chinese publications:

a. Existing facilities

State (Mr. Lacey) filed a written statement of facilities showing the following:

US Embassy, Taipei, employs two Chinese linguists who exploit the Chinese nationalist press. They cover local editorial comment and biographic and organizational information on an "ad hoc" basis. Their reporting is in the form of enclosures to dispatches and is available to the IAC agencies on request but are not automatically disseminated. The unit only has the capacity to cover State Department requirements and no expansion is anticipated at this time.

Hong Kong Press Unit has five translators and one Chinese editor, plus clerical help under the supervision of a foreign service officer in the political section of the Consulate General. They process regularly about 20 newspapers and news agency releases. The reports are in the following form:

"Current Background Series" directed entirely to Communist China, political, economic and social problems. Over half the material in these reports is locally translated by the Press Unit and the remainder reproduced from ECNA English releases. Stencils are cut in Hong Kong and sent to Washington for reproduction and dissemination.

"Survey of the China Mainland Press" covering Communist news items and editorials from a dozen or more mainland newspapers and ECNA news service. They are issued every other day. Items are grouped topically covering Foreign Relations, National Affairs, Regional Affairs and Special Topics. The reports carry tables of contents and the headlines of lesser items are listed but not translated. Stencils are cut in Hong Kong and sent to Washington for reproduction and dissemination. Forty-five copies are distributed to government agencies and 100 copies sent on request to universities and scholars.

"Review of the Hong Kong Chinese Press" covers Editorial Digest and News Summary in 250 issues per year. It reports matters of political and economic interest. Requirements of the Comprehensive Economic Reporting Program and the Foreign Service Manual are used as guides in reporting for this publication. The present Hong Kong staff of five linguists represents a cut from eight translators. The Press Unit has recommended an expansion at an estimated cost of \$5,000 for salaries and \$500 for procurement and supplies.

Army (Mr. Bauer) has the following facilities: 500th MIS Group, Tokyo; 525th MIS Group, Fort Bragg; and 338th MIS Battalion, Fort Meade. The 500th has its primary emphasis on the exploitation of captured documents. The 525th and 338th have qualified linguists but are doing little in the field of exploitation. Personnel in the latter two units are rotated frequently and there is a correspondingly large turnover and change in their complements of personnel. All three units operate under respective Army commands and their primary function is to be responsive to the requirements of the commands under which they serve. Their reports are not generally disseminated outside the Department of the Army. Their activities may however be expanded and requirements of other agencies within the capabilities of the 500th MIS Group would probably be honored if submitted through AFPE.

Air Force (Maj. Donelan): Primary Chinese exploitation is accomplished by the 600th Air Intelligence Service Squadron at Tokyo. This unit has 15 translators and exploits about 40 titles monthly consisting mostly of newspapers. Its reporting is done only

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against requirements of Air Force and are similar in format to the Treasure Island reports. They are forwarded through FEAF and disseminated to the intelligence community as Treasure Island reports. The source material is overtly and covertly acquired largely through the Air Liaison Officer in Hong Kong. The effort might be expanded.

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CIA [REDACTED]: FDD has 20 intelligence officer linguists for exploitation of Chinese publications. The Division covers 45 newspaper titles from China, two from Hong Kong and 20 Overseas Chinese newspapers. In addition about 109 titles of periodicals are received in from one to 50 issues per year. The latter are exploited on specific requests. Monographic literature is handled only by reporting annotated bibliographies. The effort is a common service against the requirements of all the IAC agencies and the offices of CIA. The reports are in the form of [REDACTED] information reports, translations and summaries. Reference material is generally satisfactory except for technical Chinese to English. All titles covered by the 6004th AISS and Hong Kong Press Monitoring Service are received by FDD. [REDACTED]

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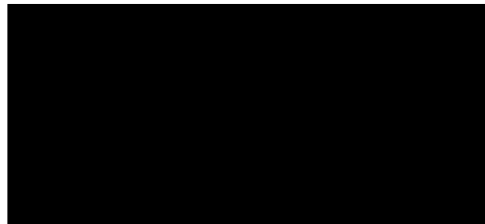
[REDACTED] There are no current plans for expansion.

b. Examination of Part 2a of the agenda: "What current publications should be covered by FDD?"

State (Mr. Lacey): FDD should concentrate on a more comprehensive coverage of provincial newspapers and greater emphasis on periodicals and books.

3. The agenda for the next meeting will be the continuation of examination of exploitation of Chinese publications.

4. Meeting adjourned at 1540 hours, 30 October 1953. The next meeting will be held at 1400 hours, 13 November 1953, in Room 2125 M Building.



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